

- 3 GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the article with the most suitable prepositions. They may consist of more than one word, and in some places more than one preposition is possible.  
 2.19 Listen and check.

## END OF THE ROAD

A tourist's tale by SUSAN HUNTER

IT WAS LATE afternoon when we drove into the little town. We had driven for (1) ..... 400 kilometres that day and most of it had been (2) ..... thick fog. We were tired and decided to find a hotel – we didn't know how far it might be to the next town. We parked, got (3) ..... the car and stretched – a walk would be very welcome, we thought. We left our luggage (4) ..... the car boot and walked (5) ..... the already empty car park to a narrow but fast-flowing stream.

A five-minute stroll (6) ..... a tree-lined avenue (7) ..... the stream took us (8) ..... the town square. It was a beautiful old square with a fountain (9) ..... the middle and arcades (10) ..... three sides. We looked up at terraces of interesting-looking restaurants (11) ..... the arcades and then back down at entrances to fascinating little shops (12) ..... them.

We had no idea where to look for a hotel or a pension in this sleepy town, so we walked (13) ..... an old man sitting (14) ..... a bench by the fountain. He pointed us in the direction of a narrow alleyway and told us we'd find the best hotel (15) ..... the little road. It seemed unlikely, but we followed his advice and sure enough, (16) ..... the other end of the alleyway, (17) ..... two picturesque old houses, was a sign saying 'hotel'. Just

(18) ..... the hotel, (19) ..... the other side of the street, was a house covered in the most colourful flowers, and I immediately hoped that we might be able to see the house from our bedroom window. (20) ..... the hotel reception, a cool, dark room with a coffee lounge (21) ..... one corner, we asked about a room. Our satisfaction was complete when we realised that even the best room in the hotel was (22) ..... \$80.

We looked at the room, decided to take it and went down to the lounge, where we stopped for a delicious cappuccino. Soon dusk was falling, so we handed the room key (23) ..... the receptionist and told him we'd be back with our luggage in ten minutes. As we walked (24) ..... the narrow streets, we discussed what we would do the next day and how long we'd stay in the little town. Imagine our horror when we arrived (25) ..... the car park to find it completely empty – our car and all of our luggage had been stolen!

